

# Entry Level HazMat Course Requirements for Emergency Responders

1. First Responder Awareness (“FRA”)
2. First Responder Operations (“FRO”)

**Who should take these two courses?** According to federal and state regulations, anyone who could come into contact with or discover, an actual or potential, hazardous material spill, is required to have received training. Why should you consider these courses? What if you’re near an unknown chemical leak, or a situation in which you’re responding becomes a hazardous material incident? What would you do? Should you try to stop the leak? How far should you be from it? How could it hurt you or others? Could you make a difference, or will you become a hindrance? How can you increase your chances of going home safely? The curricula emphasis is on recognition, and taking the safe approach to protect yourself and others.

**Training Providers:** There are many in California.

- OES/CSTI
- Local fire, or private sector, providers often offer at low cost or even free, e.g., <http://www.safetyunlimited.com/classroom-training/other-courses-HAZMAT-29CFR1910.asp>
- Approved versions, modified for healthcare, are available, e.g., <http://www.hazmatforhealthcare.org>

## Two Courses:

- HAZMAT 29CFR1910 .120(q)(6)(i):  
**HM FRA-First Responder Awareness** (4 to 8 Hours)

HAZMAT First Responders at the awareness level (FRA) are individuals who are likely to witness or discover a hazardous substance release and who have been trained to initiate an emergency response sequence by notifying the proper authorities of the release-they would take no further action beyond notifying the authorities.

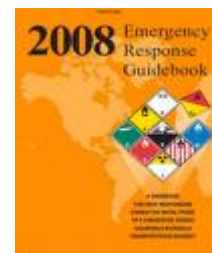
*Meets OSHA requirements 29CFR1910 .120(q)(6)(i) and CCR Title 8, Section 5192(q)(6)(A). Who should attend: Law Enforcement Agencies, EMS Agencies, Health Departments and Private Industry Responders. OES- CSTI CERTIFIED*

- HAZMAT 29CFR1910 .120(q)(6)(ii):  
**HM FRO-First Responder Operations** (8, 16 or 24 Hours)

A HAZMAT First Responder at the Operations level (FRO) responds to Hazardous Materials Incidents in a defensive fashion within existing resources and capabilities to contain the release from a safe distance, to keep it from spreading and to prevent exposures to nearby persons, property or the environment.

*Meets OSHA requirements 29CFR1910 .120(q)(6)(ii) and CCR Title 8, Section 5192(q)(6)(B). Who should attend: Fire Departments, certain Law Enforcement Agencies, Health Departments and Private Industry Responders. OES-CSTI CERTIFIED*

**Standard Text:** Emergency Response Guidebook – 2008 (ERG). Available free to emergency responders: <http://hazmat.dot.gov/pubs/erg/guidebook.htm>



## Regulations:

- State of California [CCR Title 8, Section 5192](#) Section (e) and (q)

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- Federal OSHA [29CFR1910.120](#) Section (q)